

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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R 121653Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 249

INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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CODEL POAGE

E O 11652 N A

TAGS: OREP (POAGE, W.R.)

SUBJ: CODEL POAGE/DE LA GARZA

1. SUMMARY: CODEL VISIT WENT SUCCESSFULLY. DUE TIME LIMITATION WAS LITTLE OPPORTUNITY FAMILIARIZE CODEL WITH OVERALL MALIAN AGRICULTURE, ESPECIALLY SAHEL REGION, BUT THEY DID MEET GOM OFFICIALS AND VISITED MALIAN COOPERATIVE FARM AND NEIGHBORING VILLAGE WHICH GAVE CODEL SOME IDEA OF MALIAN FARMING METHODS.

2. CODEL ARRIVED ON SCHEDULE, 1609 HOURS NOV 7, AND WAS GREETED BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE, INTERIOR AND SECURITY, MAJOR KISSIMA DOUKARA, MAJOR MAMADOU SANOGO, CHEF DE CABINET MILITAIRE AND MEMBER OF THE RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM PROTOCOL, THE AMBASSADOR AND VARIOUS EMBASSY OFFICERS. THE CODEL HAD A SHORT DISCUSSION AT THE AIRPORT WITH DOUKARA ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE DROUGHT. CODEL ACCEPTED AMB'S INVITATION TO STAY AT INDIVIDUAL RESIDENCES, WHERE EMBOFF'S BRIEFED MEMBERS ON MALIAN SITUATION AND OFFICIALS INVITED AMB'S BUFFET. THAT EVENING, CODEL HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISCUSSION WITH MINISTERS AND KEY OFFICIALS FROM MINISTRIES

OF DEFENSE, HEALTH, STATE ENTERPRISE, EDUCATION, AND INFORMATION, INCLUDING MINDEF AND SECURITY DOUKARA, WHOSE EXCELLENT ENGLISH MADE POSSIBLE WORTHWHILE DIALOGUE ON DROUGHT SITUATION, TRANSPORT, AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

3. TRIP TO COOP FARM AT BAGUINEDA APPEARED TO IMPRESS CODEL, AND DRIVE PROVIDED CODEL OPPORTUNITY SEE AFRICAN COUNTRYSIDE AND EMBOFFS OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPLEMENT BRIEFING PAPERS. AT BAGUINEDA, CODEL WAS BRIEFED BY PCV ON ADOPTITC OF MODERN AGRICULTURAL TECHNIQUES TO THE RURAL AFRICAN SITUATION, I.E. PROBLEMS OF WINNING ACCEPTANCE FOR NEW METHODS AND AVOIDING OVER-SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT, ETC. ALSO TOURED NEIGHBORING VILLAGE, SAW NATIVE DANCERS, AND EXAMINED SEVERAL HOUSING COMPOUNDS. PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TO AIRPORT FOR 0935 TAKEOFF, FIVE MINUTES LATE.

4. USIS PROVIDED EXCELLENT PHOTO COVERAGE; IS POUCHING PHOTOS DEPT.

5. GENERAL IMPRESSIONS: THOUGH CODEL FOUND STAY ENJOYABLE, DESPITE FULL PROGRAMMING OF TIME OF DEPTH BRIEFING OF COMPLEX MALIAN AGRICULTURAL SITUATION WAS NOT POSSIBLE. ATTENDANCE OF GOM OFFICIALS AT BUFFET IMPRESSIVE, PARTICULARLY CONSIDERING CONFLICT WITH LARGE SOVIET NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION SAME EVENING. MANY MALIAN OFFICIALS LEFT SOVIET RECEPTION EARLY TO ATTEND BUFFET.
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